

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/29945

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : B01D 53/22,69/04

US CL : 96/8,10; 210/321.8,321.89

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHEDMinimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
U.S. : 96/4,7,8,10-12; 210/321.8,321.81,321.89,321.9Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
NONEElectronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
NONE**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4,690,760 A (SMOOT et al.) 01 september 1987 (01.09.87).	1-17
A	US 5,182,019 A (COTE et al.) 26 January 1993 (26.01.93).	1-17
A	US 5,332,498 A (ROGUT) 26 July 1994 (26.07.94).	1-17
A	US 5,922,201 A (YAMAMORI et al.) 13 July 1999 (13.07.99).	1-17
A	US 6,083,390 A (HARTMANN) 04 July 2000 (04.07.00).	1-17
A	US 6,214,226 B1 (KOBAYASHI et al.) 10 April 2001 (10.04.01).	1-17
A	US 6,228,146 B1 (KUESPERT) 08 May 2001 (08.05.01).	1-17
A	US 6,361,588 B1 (MORATALLA) 26 March 2002 (26.03.02).	1-17
A	US 2002/0096458 A1 (THOMASSEN) 25 July 2002 (25.07.02).	1-17

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

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document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&"

document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

02 December 2003 (02.12.2003)

Date of mailing of the international search report

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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

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